

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/840,116

Applicant(s)

SRINIVASAN, NAGAN

Examiner

Jong-Suk (James) Lee

Art Unit

3673

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to an application filed 5/5/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-21.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 05 May 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT/COMMENT AND STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR
ALLOWANCE**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT

In lines 1-8: In order not to exceed 150 words in length, "Jacket frame floating structures.....defining a central opening extending therethrough." has been changed to -- jacket frame floating structures comprise one or more elongate vertical support columns formed of an open cross-braced jacket formwork of tubular members interconnected together and at least one cylindrical buoyancy capsule disposed in the open framework near an upper end and at least one cylindrical second buoyancy capsule near a lower end in vertically spaced relation. The buoyancy capsule(s) may be a single, or a plurality of upper and lower capsules bundled in circumferentially spaced relation with a central opening therethrough. Alternatively, a keel tank may replace the lower capsule. The buoyancy of the upper buoyancy capsule(s) is adjustably tuned to provide a buoyant force and a sufficient water plane area and moment of inertia required for stability of the floating structure, and the water mass and weight of the lower buoyancy capsule(s) or

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keel tank(s) is adjustably tuned to raise or lower the center of gravity of the entire mass of the floating structure with respect to its center of buoyancy according to ballast and variable or fixed loads including deck payloads to stabilize the structure. --

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record fails to disclose or fairly suggest a jacket frame offshore floating structure comprising at least one elongate open cross-braced jacket frame formed of tubular members interconnected together defining an interior and having top and bottom ends, at least on e first buoyancy capsule disposed in the interior near the first end having a ballast control for adjusting the buoyancy of the capsule, weight adjusting means disposed near the second end for adjusting the weight of the structure having an another at least one buoyancy capsule or at least one keel tank to be connected with a pump for pumping water in and out thereof, the buoyancy of the capsules being adjustably tuned to provide a buoyancy force and a sufficient water plane area and moment of inertia for stability of the floating structure by raising or lowering the center of gravity of the entire mass of the structure with respect to its center of buoyancy according to ballast and variable or fixed loads.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jong-Suk (James) Lee whose telephone number is (703) 308-6777. The examiner can normally be reached between the hours of 6:30 AM to 3:00 PM Monday thru Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather C. Shackelford, can be reached on (703) 308-2978. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-2168.

J. Lee /jjl
December 6, 2004



**Jong-Suk (James) Lee
Primary Examiner
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